

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 6 illustrates an exemplary way to encode a ~~subject~~ subobject 600 of an EXPLICIT_ROUTE object. The L-bit 610 indicates whether or not the subobject represents a loose hop ("1") or a strict hop ("0"). Field 620 identifies the type of the subobject, field 630 provides the length of the subobject, and field 640 carries the contents of the subobject.